

The Appleton Crescent

"The Union, the Constitution, and the Enforcement of its Laws."

CITY OF APPLETON, WIS. SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 22, 1862.

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BY RYAN & BRO.

The Appleton Crescent.

RYAN & BRO.
JAMES RYAN, M. D. RYAN.

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The Late Scientific Balloon Ascent.

The following is Mr. Glaisher's report of the recent remarkable balloon ascent in England:

On the earth at 11.30m. the temperature of the air was 59 deg.; at 11.35m. at the height of a mile, it was 39 deg.; and shortly afterwards we entered a cloud, in which the temperature of the air fell to 35-36 deg., and the wet bulb thermometer read the same, showing the air here was saturated with moisture. On emerging from the cloud at 11.47m. we came into a flood of light, with a beautiful blue sky without a cloud above us, and a magnificent sea of cloud below, its surface being varied with endless hills, hillocks, mountain chains, and many snow-white mounds rising from it. I tried to take a view with the camera, but we were rising and revolving too rapidly for me to do so. When we attained the height of two miles, at 11.51m. the temperature had taken to the freezing point; we were three miles high at 11.58m. with a temperature of 18 deg.; at 11.59m. we had reached four miles, and the temperature was 8 deg.; in ten minutes more we had reached the fifth mile, and the temperature of the air had passed below zero, and there read minus 2 deg., and at this point no dew was observed on Regnault's hygrometer when cooled down to minus 30 deg. Up to this time I had taken the observations with comfort. I had experienced no difficulty in breathing, while Mr. Coxwell, in consequence of the necessary exertion he had to make, had breathed with difficulty for some time.

At 11.55m. the barometer read 11.05 inches, but which requires a subtractive correction of 0.25 inch, as found by comparison with Lord Wrottesley's standard barometer just before starting, both by his lordship and myself, which would reduce it to 10.8 inches, or at a height of about 5-5.4 miles. I read the dry bulb as minus 5 deg. in endeavoring to read the wet bulb, I could not see the column of mercury. I rubbed my eyes and then took a lens, and also failed. I then tried to read the other instrument, and found I could not do so, nor could I see the hands of the watch. I asked Mr. Coxwell to help me, and he said he must go into the ring, and he would when he came down. I endeavored to reach some brandy, which was lying on the table, but the distance of a foot from my hand, and found myself unable to do so. My sight became more dim; I looked at the barometer, and saw it between 10 and 11 inches, and tried to read it, but I was unable to write. I then saw it at 10 inches, still decreasing fast, and just noted it in my book; its true reading therefore, was at this time about 9.3-9.4 inches, implying a height of about 5.3-5.4 miles, as a change of an inch in the reading of the barometer at this elevation takes place on a change of height of about 2,500 feet. I felt I was losing all power, and endeavored to rouse myself by struggling and shaking. I attempted to speak and found I had lost the power. I attempted to look at the barometer again; my head fell on one side. I struggled and got it right, and it fell on the other, and finally fell backwards. My arm which had been resting on the table, fell down by my side. I saw Mr. Coxwell dimly in the ring. It became more misty, and finally dark, and I sank unconsciously as in sleep; it may have been about 11.54m.

I then heard Mr. Coxwell say, "What is the temperature? Take an observation; now try." But I could neither see, move, nor speak. I then heard him speak more emphatically, "Take an observation; now do it." I shortly afterwards opened my eyes, saw the instruments and Mr. Coxwell very dimly, and soon saw clearly, and said to Mr. Coxwell, "I have been insensible," and he replied, "You have, and I nearly." I have lost the use of my hands; give me some brandy to bathe them." His hands nearly black. I saw the temperature was still below zero, and the barometer reading 11 inches, but increasing quickly. I resumed my observations at 12.7m., recording the barometer reading 11.53 inches, and the temperature minus 2. I then found that the water in the vessel supplying the wet bulb thermometer which I had, by frequent disturbance, kept from freezing, was one solid mass of ice. Mr. Coxwell then told me that while in the ring he felt it piercingly cold, that his frost was all around the neck of the balloon, and on attempting to leave the ring he found his hands frozen, and he got down as best he could; that he found me motionless, with a quiet and placid expression on the countenance. He spoke to me without eliciting a reply, and found I was insensible. He then said he felt insensibility was coming over himself, that he became anxious to open the valve, that his hands failed him, and that he seized the line between his hand and pulled the valve open until the balloon took turn downwards. On asking Mr. Coxwell whether he had noticed the temperature, he said he could not, as the faces of the instruments were all towards me; but that he had noticed that the centre of the aneroid barometer, its blue hand,

and a rope attached to the car were in the same straight line. If so, the reading must have been between seven and eight inches. A height of six miles corresponds to eight inches. A delicate self-registering minimum thermometer read minus 12 deg., but unfortunately I did not read it until I was out of the car, and I cannot say that its index was not disturbed. On descending, when the temperature rose to 17 deg., it was remarked as warm, and at 24 deg. it was noted as very warm. The temperature then gradually increased to 57.1-2 deg. on reaching the earth. It was remarked that the sand was quite warm to the hand, and steam issued from it when it was discharged. Six pigeons were taken up. One was thrown out at the height of three miles; it extended its wings and dropped as a piece of paper. A second at four miles, flew vigorously round and round, apparently taking a great dip at each time. A third was thrown out at between four and five miles, and it fell downwards. A fourth was thrown out at four miles, when we were descending; it flew in a circle and shortly after alighted on the top of the balloon. The two remaining pigeons were brought down to the ground; one was found to be dead, and the other a carrier, had attached to its neck a note. It would not, however, leave, and when jerked off the finger returned to the hand. After a quarter of an hour it began to pick a piece of ribbon encircling its neck. I then jerked it off my finger and it flew around two or three times with vigor, and finally towards Wolverhampton. It would seem from this ascent that five miles is nearly the limit of human existence. It is possible as the effect of each high ascent upon myself has been different, that on other occasions I might be able to go higher, and it is possible that some persons may be able to exist with less air and bear a greater degree of cold; but still I think that prudence would say to all, whenever the barometer falls as low as eleven inches open the valve at once; the increased information to be obtained is not commensurate with the increased risk.

Abominable Atrocities of the King of Dahomey.

The following information from Dahomey has been received from the commander of his Majesty's ship, Griffin, at Little Popo, August 6, 1862.

On the 10th of August, when at anchor off Little Popo, I received a letter from the shore, stating that Mr. Eschert, a Dutch merchant residing at Popo, had just returned from Dahomey, and that he had news of great interest for my ear. I gave the substance of Mr. Eschert's information as closely as possible, having put it down in my note book during our conversation. Mr. Eschert was at Wadja on the 24th of June, when he received the stick of the King of Dahomey, with an instruction that his presence was required at Abomey. Mr. Eschert tried every method of evading the journey, but without avail, the Calabers of Wadja plainly telling him that he would be carried to Abomey as a prisoner if he did not at once willingly obey the King's message. Accordingly, having provided himself with six hammock men, he left Wadja for Abomey, escorted by an armed party of Dahomians.

July 1. Received by the King, who was seated outside the Palace on a raised dais, surrounded by Amazons. He saluted the King in European style. The King at once got up and shook hands with him, and he was very glad to see a Dutchman, and continued talking in Portuguese for about ten minutes. He was then ordered to return to his house and keep inside three days.

July 5. He was brought to the market place, where he was told many people had been killed the night before. He first saw the body of Mr. William Doherty (a Sierra Leone man), late a missionary and Church Catechist at Ishagga. The body was crucified against a large tree, one through the forehead, one through the heart, and one through each hand and foot; the left arm was bent, and a large cotton umbrella in the grasp. He was then taken to the market, where the King was seated on a raised platform, from which he was talking to the people much "war palaver," and promising them an attack upon Abbeokuta, in November. Cowries, cloth, and rum were distributed. In front of the market-place rows of human heads, fresh and gory, were ranged, and the whole place was saturated with blood, the heads evidently belonging to some of the Ishagga prisoners who had been killed during the night, after having been tortured in the most frightful manner.

Until July tenth Mr. Eschert was ordered to remain quiet in his house, and not to move or look out after sundown.

July 10. The ground shook violently evidently, from the date, the effect of an earthquake felt at Accra. Mr. Eschert was at once brought to the market place, where he found the King again seated on the raised platform, surrounded by Amazons; the King told them that the ground-shaken was his father's spirit, complaining that "Customs were not made proper." Three Ishagga chiefs were then brought before the King, and told they were to go and tell his father that "Customs should be better than ever." Each chief was then given a bottle of rum and a head of cowries, and then decapitated. Twenty-four men were then

brought out, bound in baskets, with their heads just out, and placed on the platform in front of the King; they were then thrown down to the people, who were dancing, singing, and yelling below; as each man was thrown down, he was seized and beheaded, the heads being piled in one heap and the bodies in another; every man who caught a victim and cut off the head received one head of cowries (about 2s.). After all were killed Mr. Eschert was conducted home.

July 11. Taken to another part of the town, where exactly similar horrors were being perpetrated.

July 12. All the platforms were taken down, and the programme appeared to be firing guns, singing and dancing all day; there were no more public sacrifices for ten days, but it is supposed many took place during the nights.

July 22. Taken to see the "Grand Customs" at the Palace of the late King, at the gate of which two platforms had been erected, on each platform sixteen men and four horses were placed another platform, on which were placed sixteen women, four horses, and one alligator. The men and women were all Sierra Leone people captured at Ishagga, and were dressed in European clothes, and each group of ten mounted, or rather bound in chairs placed around a table on which glasses of rum were placed for each. The King then ascended the platform, where he adored the Dahomian fetish, and seemed to make obeisance to the prisoners, whose right arms were then loosed to enable them to take up the glass to drink the King's health. After the King's health had been drunk, the two effects of the late King were then paraded and worshipped by the people as his passed; a grand review of the troops then commenced, and as each marched past, the King harangued them, and promised the sack of Abbeokuta in November. Nearly the whole of the troops were firearms; a few select corps had rifles, but the greater part were armed with flint-lock muskets. The artillery consisted of about twenty-four guns (twelve-pounders). The number of troops altogether could scarcely be less than fifty thousand, including ten thousand Amazons, all apparently well disciplined troops. After the review was over the prisoners were beheaded, their heads being hacked off with blunt knives; at the same time the horses and alligator were dispatched, particular care being taken that their blood should mingle with that of the human prisoners. When all was finished, Mr. Eschert was permitted to leave Abomey, which it is needless to say, he immediately did, having received the magnificent viaticum of eight heads of cowries (sixteen shillings), one piece of country cloth, and two flasks of rum. T. L. Perry, Commander.

Among the new inventions recently patented is that of an improved fan shaped sail. The Scientific American says the invention consists of a sail to spread and furled by a movement about a central point or points; also, in a certain novel construction of a truss which attaches the sail to the mast, and is a novel combination of a yard, truss, and swinging arms for spreading the sails. The objects of the invention are: First, to enable the sail to be conveniently reeled and unreeled from the deck; second, to enable the sail to be kept flat, or prevented from billowing; third to distribute the strain more equally over the different parts of the sail constructed and applied in the usual manner; fourth, to get the weight of the topmast of vessels to be reduced.

To PRESERVE POTATOES.—A correspondent of the Scientific American says that he has tried the following method of keeping potatoes for four years with complete success, though in some instances a portion of the tubers were diseased when taken out of the ground. "Dust over the floor of the bin with lime and put in about six or seven inches deep of potatoes and dust time as before. Put in six or seven inches of potatoes and lime again; repeating the operation till all are stored away. One bushel of lime will do for forty bushels of potatoes, though more will not hurt them—the lime rather improving the flavor than other otherwise."

A meeting of German gentlemen, members of the legislative bodies of Prussia, Bavaria, Wurtemberg, Hanover, Saxony and most of the smaller German States, has been held at Weimar, which almost unanimously declared that the German people demand the transmutation of the Germanic Confederation into one single unitary state. This assembly was anti-Austrian in sentiment. Another is to be held shortly at Frankfurt, to demand that "New Germany" be made, Austria be included. These meetings mark an interesting stage in the progress of German political history.

"What do you mean by cat and dog life?" said a husband to his angry wife: "Look at Carlo and Kitty asleep on the rug together. I wish men lived half so peacefully with their wives." "Stop," said the lady, "lie them together, and then you'll see how they will agree."

McClellan's Departure from the Army.

More than a hundred thousand soldiers are in great grief to night. Their accomplished, patriotic and beloved general, under whom they have fought so many successful battles, has been superseded in command of the army of the Potomac.

It was nearly midnight on Friday, the 14th inst., when Gen. Buckingham handed the order of the president to Gen. McClellan, relieving him from command of the army of the Potomac, and directing him to report at Trenton, New Jersey. It was entirely unexpected by every body here.

McClellan had an immediate interview with Burnside, when the sorrowful intelligence was disclosed. It is difficult to describe which was the more affected—McClellan, to leave the noble man who had grown up to be intrepid soldier under him, or Burnside, to assume the fearful responsibilities which were thus unexpectedly placed upon him. Tears poured down McClellan's classic features, and Burnside, with his stout and heavy frame, grieved like a sorrowing child. There they sat and wept. Both have always been warm friends. They have lived and labored in the walks of civil life together, in the same establishment, and, with patriotic feelings in common with each other and us all, have fought for the Union beneath the stolen folds of the same beloved banner.

On Saturday the mournful news was known through headquarters. His staff officers were not less amazed than McClellan was himself. There was not a single officer who could comprehend the meaning, or rather the justice of the matter. In answer to inquiries propounded to himself, McClellan simply said, "All I know about it is that I received the order, dated on the 14th, immediately after the results of the State elections were announced."

"Well," said McClellan, to some officers around him, "I will remain as long as Burnside wants me to." "No you won't," replied Burnside, "for if you do you will remain with us altogether." Everybody felt that yesterday was a very unsatisfactory Sunday. Sorrow, disappointment and doubt were depicted on every countenance. Throughout the day officers kept themselves in their tents. Headquarters looked dismal and deserted.

On Sunday evening a most touching scene occurred. After having concluded his arrangements with Burnside, McClellan sent an invitation to his own staff officers, requesting them to come into his tent at 9 o'clock that evening, to drink a glass of wine with him before he should bid them adieu. They appeared in full uniform, and participated in the interesting and solemn scene that ensued. The wine was produced and the glasses were supplied. An hour or two was passed in pleasant social converse, during which Gen. McClellan had a kind and cheering word for every one.

A splendid photograph of the Gen'l and his personal staff officers, forming a handsome group, in front of his tent, and another of the general on horseback, were taken before starting. When just about to go he said, "I can hardly bear to see my soldiers again." Then, accompanied by his officers and escort, a magnificent cavalcade, he rode off to take a last farewell of his troops.

Having passed through the lines of all the troops in the vicinity, General McClellan turned his horse's head to go back to his headquarters, whence he intended proceeding to the train which was waiting to convey him to Washington. Now we witnessed the most affecting scene of all. Until this moment it hardly seemed that their favorite general could leave them. But now he was going from among them—he had already gone. The moment that they fully realized it all those soldiers, animated by one universal impulse, ran after him, some weeping aloud, and shouted in the most touching and appealing manner: "Fetch him back, fetch him back!" "Oh, come back to us, come back to us, McClellan!"

Every one who heard those touching words was moved to tears. All the officers then passed round and shook hands with General McClellan. This was another of the many affecting scenes we had witnessed in the morning.

PROPHET OF GEN. JACKSON.—Said the old hero to a friend at the Hermitage, a short time before his death: "The abolition party is a disloyal organization. Its pretended love of freedom means nothing more or less than civil war and dissolution of the Union. Honest men of all parties should unite to expose their intentions and arrest their progress."

Time has proven that the old veteran knew pretty nearly what he was talking about.

According to the census of 1860, agriculture is the great interest of the nation. The total capital of the United States was about \$60,000,000,000. Of this sum, \$30,000,000,000, or fifty-six of the whole amount, was invested in agriculture. The late Professor Johnston, of Scotland, estimated that nine-tenths of all the fixed capital of the world is embarked in agriculture.

Humor of Soldier's Life.

A private soldier, by the name of Richard Lee, was taken before the magistrates of Glasgow for playing cards during divine service. The account of it is thus given in the English Journal.

"Sergeant commanded the soldiers at the church, and when the parson had read the prayers he took the text. Those who had a bible took it out, but this soldier had neither bible nor common prayer book; but pulling out a pack of cards, he spread them out before him. He first looked at one card and then at another. The Sergeant of the company saw him and said:

"Richard, put up the cards; this is no place for them."

"Never mind that," said Richard. "When the service was over, the constable took Richard a prisoner, and brought him before the Mayor."

"Well," says the Mayor, "what have you brought the soldier here for?"

"For playing cards in church."

"Well, soldier, what have you to say for yourself?"

"Much, sir, I hope."

"Very good; if not, I will punish you more than ever man was punished."

"I have been," said the soldier, "about six weeks on the march. I have neither bible nor common prayer book. I have nothing but a pack of cards, and I hope to satisfy your worship of the purity of my intentions."

Then spreading the cards before the Mayor, he began with the ace.

"When I see the ace it reminds me that there is but one God."

"When I see the deuce it reminds me of Father and Son."

"When I see the tray it reminds me of Father, Son, and Holy Ghost."

"When I see the four it reminds me of the four Evangelists that preached—Matthew, Mark, Luke and John."

"When I see the five it reminds me of the five wise virgins that trimmed their lamps. There were ten, but five were wise and five were foolish, and were shut out."

"When I see the six it reminds me that in six days the Lord made Heaven and earth."

"When I see the seven it reminds me that on the seventh day God rested from the great work he had made, and hallowed it."

"When I see the eight it reminds me of the eight righteous persons that were saved when God destroyed the world, viz: Noah and his wife, his three sons and their wives."

"When I see the nine it reminds me of the nine lepers that were cleansed by our Savior. There were nine out of ten who never returned thanks."

"When I see the

